### **FSTATE OF IOWA**

### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

## **UTILITIES BOARD**

IN RE:

INTERSTATE POWER COMPANY AND IES UTILITIES INC., n/k/a INTERSTATE POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

DOCKET NOS. TF-02-398 TF-02-399 (FCU-01-2)

### ORDER APPROVING REVISED COMPLIANCE TARIFFS

(Issued May 1, 2003)

On March 7, 2003, the Utilities Board (Board) issued an "Order Approving Tariffs in Part and Rejecting Tariffs in Part" in Docket Nos. TF-02-398 and TF-02-399 requiring Interstate Power Company and IES Utilities Inc., n/k/a Interstate Power and Light Company (IPL), to make certain changes to proposed tariffs filed in compliance with the Board's May 17, 2002, order in Docket No. FCU-01-2. The proposed tariffs would make changes to existing tariff sections 7.08 (gas), 7.10 (electric), 8.02 (gas and electric), and 8.02A (gas and electric) to address which customers may be held liable for payment for utility service in specified circumstances. On April 1, 2003, IPL filed revised tariffs to comply with the March 7, 2003, order.

In Docket No. FCU-01-2, the Board determined that certain provisions contained in IPL's gas and electric tariffs allowed IPL to disconnect or refuse service to customers in circumstances that were not consistent with Board rules. The proposed revised sections 7.08 (gas) and 7.10 (electric) limit those customers who

may be held jointly and severally liable for gas or electric service to spouses. The only exception is where one spouse has notified IPL that there is a pending divorce.

The proposed revised section 8.02 (gas and electric) provides that IPL is not required to commence utility service, if at the time of application for service, the customer or customer's spouse is indebted to IPL for the same class of service (unless they are parties to a pending divorce). This indebtedness can be at either the customer's current premise or any other premise. This applies until payment is made or the customer has agreed to a reasonable payment arrangement.

The revised subsection 8.02A (gas and electric) provides that in the case of disconnection, or where a customer has a pending credit action, IPL would not be required to reconnect gas or electric service if the customer who incurred the charges continues to occupy the premise. This provision applies unless arrangements are made for payment of the unpaid utility service at the premise.

The Board finds that the revised tariffs are consistent with the March 7, 2003, order and the decision in Docket No. FCU-01-2. The Board will approve the revised tariff provisions filed on April 1, 2003. The Board notes, however, that the issues of which customer may or may not be liable for gas or electric service and when gas or electric service may be disconnected or refused by a utility continue to be difficult and fact-sensitive. The approval of these tariffs is not a complete solution to all of the issues that can arise in this area. The Board is continuing to review its rules to

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determine whether revisions to the rules will also be necessary to provide a consistent and reasonable solution to issues raised in this area.

# IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The proposed revised tariffs filed by Interstate Power Company and IES

Utilities Inc., n/k/a Interstate Power and Light Company, on April 1, 2003, in

compliance with the March 7, 2003, order of the Utilities Board are approved effective the date of this order.

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	UTILITIES BOARD
	/s/ Diane Munns
ATTEST:	/s/ Mark O. Lambert
/s/ Judi K. Cooper Executive Secretary	/s/ Elliott Smith
Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 1 <sup>st</sup> day of May, 2003.	